

## Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 CAIRO 09462 281517Z  
ACTION NODS-00

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FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7262

S E C R E T CAIRO 09462

NODIS

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: OVIP  
SUBJECT: GAMASY ON VISIT TO U.S.

REF: (A) STATE 77941, (B) STATE 49491

1. MINDEFENSE GENERAL GAMASY ATTENDED MY RECEPTION FOR ADMIRAL HOLLOWAY LAST EVENING. AT ONE POINT GAMASY SAID THAT, FOLLOWING SADAT'S VISIT TO U.S., THE PRESIDENT HAD TOLD HIM THAT SECRETARY BROWN PLANNED TO INVITE GAMASY TO VISIT THE U.S. IN MAY. EGYPTIAN MILITARY ATTACHE HAD ALSO REPORTED THIS TO HIM. HE HAD NOT THUS FAR RECEIVED ANY FORMAL INVITATION.

2. I SAID THAT IT WAS MY UNDERSTANDING THAT A FORMAL INVITATION IS IN PREPARATION AND SHOULD BEFORE LONG BE DELIVERED. I RECALLED THAT WHEN SECRETARY BROWN DISCUSSED THE MATTER IN WASHINGTON WITH PRESIDENT SADAT, SOME TIME IN MAY HAD BEEN CONSIDERED THE BEST TIME. MORE RECENTLY, HOWEVER, I HAD SEEN SUGGESTIONS ABOUT A LATE APRIL DATE (PARA 7, REF A). ASKED IF HE WOULD BE ABLE TO ACCEPT SUCH AN INVITATION IF TENDERED, GAMASY ANSWERED IN THE AFFIRMATIVE AND SAID HE WOULD LIKE TO MAKE AN OFFICIAL VISIT TO THE U.S.

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3. WITH RESPECT TO TIMING, GAMASY EMPHASIZED THAT HE DOES NOT WANT TO GO UNTIL AFTER THE ARMS PACKAGE HAS BEEN CLEARED BY THE CONGRESS. IN THIS CONNECTION, HE RECALLED THAT I HAD A FEW DAYS AGO TOLD HIM AND PRESIDENT SADAT THAT SUBMISSION OF ARMS PACKAGE WOULD BE DELAYED UNTIL SECOND HALF OF APRIL (CAIRO 9323). THIS, AS HE UNDERSTOOD IT, MEANS THAT CONGRESSIONAL CLEARANCE

WILL NOT HAVE BEEN COMPLETED UNTIL A MONTH LATER. GAMASY EXPRESSED CONCERN THAT IF HE ARRIVES IN U.S. BEFORE ARMS PACKAGE IS CLEARED BY CONGRESS, THIS COULD BE VIEWED BY OPPONENTS AS LOBBYING AND BE COUNTER-PRODUCTIVE. HE WAS EVEN MORE CONCERNED THAT, IF THE ARMS PACKAGE SHOULD BE TURNED DOWN BY CONGRESS WHILE HE IS IN U.S., THIS WOULD DAMAGE HIS POSITION WITH THE EGYPTIAN ARMED FORCES. BEST TIME FOR HIM, AS HE SAW IT, WOULD BE IMMEDIATELY AFTER WHAT HE HOPES WILL BE APPROVAL OF THE ARMS PACKAGE, I.E., ABOUT THE END OF MAY. GOING AT THAT TIME WOULD MAXIMIZE THE IMPACT OF HIS VISIT TO THE U.S. IN EYES OF EGYPTIAN ARMED FORCES.

4. ASKED IF HE HAS ANY SPECIAL PLACES BESIDES WASHINGTON THAT HE MIGHT LIKE TO VISIT, GAMASY SAID HE WILL LEAVE THIS TO HIS HOSTS. IF IT WERE CONVENIENT, HE SAID HE MIGHT LIKE TO VISIT CARLISLE BARRACKS AND FORT GORDON, AT BOTH OF WHICH INSTALLATIONS GAMASY TRAINED IN 1948.

5. COMMENT: SUGGEST ABOVE CONSIDERATIONS BE TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT IN PLANNING FOR GAMASY VISIT. I NOTE THAT SECRETARY BELIEVES A VISIT BY GAMASY TOWARD END OF APRIL WOULD BE SATISFACTORY. THIS IS EARLIER THAN SECRETARY BROWN HAD SUGGESTED TO SADAT AND WOULD PUT GAMASY IN THE U.S. WHILE THE DEBATE OVER THE ARMS PACKAGE IS TAKING PLACE. IF IT IS DESIRED, WE COULD PRESS GAMASY TO GO IN APRIL, BUT HE  
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CLEARLY WOULD PREFER TO WAIT UNTIL THE ARMS PACKAGE IS OUT OF THE WAY. I ASSUME AMBASSADOR GHORBAL, WHO ARRIVED .. LAST NIGHT, WILL BE TELLING GAMASY OF DEPT'S VIEWS AND HE " IS LIKELY TO QUERY ME AGAIN ON THE SUBJECT. UNLESS WE ARE, ABSOLUTELY CERTAIN THAT THE ARMS PACKAGE WILL GO THROUGH, AND THAT GAMASY WILL NOT BE EMBARRASSED IF HE COMES TO U.S. WHILE CONGRESSIONAL DEBATE IS TAKING PLACE" IN APRIL, I RECOMMEND THAT WE DEFER TO HIS VIEWS AND WAIT T UNTIL THE END OF MAY. WE MUST NOW ALSO TAKE INTO ACCOUNT THE ADDITIONAL DIMENSION OF APC'S THAT GAMASY HAS AGAIN RAISED (CAIRO 9429) AND WILL PRESUMABLY NEED A LITTLE TIME" TO DECIDE WHAT TO DO ON THIS. GAMASY IS QUITE RIGHT THAT THE EGYPTIAN MILITARY WILL BE WATCHING HIS VISIT CLOSELY AND HIS STANDING CAN BE HELPED OR HARMED BY WHAT TAKES PLACE DURING HIS VISIT.

6. SUGGEST THIS MESSAGE BE REPEATED TO SECDEF. EILTS

SECRET

NNN

## Message Attributes

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**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** MINISTERIAL VISITS, MILITARY ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS, CAT-B  
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**Draft Date:** 28 mar 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
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**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
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**TAGS:** OVIP, MASS, EG, US, (GAMASY, MOHAMMAD ABDUL GHANI)  
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